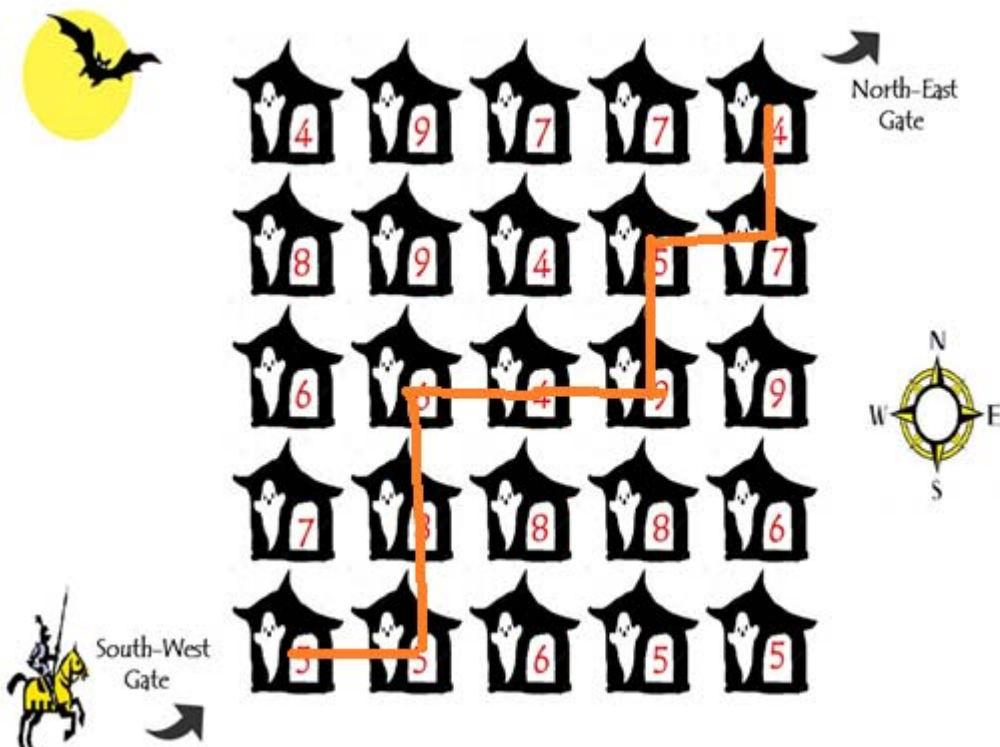


The Haunted Village

IN THE HAUNTED VILLAGE (THE MAP OF WHICH IS SHOWN IN THE PICTURE), EVERY HOUSE WAS INHABITED BY SOME GHOSTS (THE NUMBER OF THESE GHOSTS WAS WELL KNOWN TO ALL, AND WAS WRITTEN ON EACH HOUSE). THE VILLAGERS LIVED IN CONSTANT FEAR, AND WERE VERY SAD INDEED. THERE WAS A PROPHECY THAT THE VILLAGE WOULD BE LIBERATED FROM GHOSTS WHEN A KNIGHT WINS THE BATTLE WITH EXACTLY 53 GHOSTS.

ON THE NIGHT OF HALLOWEEN, THE VALIANT KNIGHT OF THE PAST ENTERED THE HAUNTED VILLAGE THROUGH THE SOUTH-WEST GATE (AT THE BOTTOM LEFT CORNER). HE WENT FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE, MOVING ONLY UP (NORTH) OR TO THE RIGHT (EAST), STOPPING AT EACH HOUSE ON HIS WAY AND CHALLENGING ALL THE GHOSTS IN EACH OF THE HOUSES HE ENTERED TO BATTLE. HE WON ALL OF THE BATTLES, AND WHEN HE LEFT THE VILLAGE THROUGH THE NORTH-EASTERN GATE, EXACTLY 53 GHOSTS WERE CONQUERED. THUS THE PROPHECY WAS FULFILLED AND THE HAUNTED VILLAGE WAS NO LONGER HAUNTED, AND ALL REJOICED. CAN YOU SHOW THE PATH OF VALIANT KNIGHT OF THE PAST THROUGH THE VILLAGE?



Answer: One of the possible solutions is

$$5 + 5 + 8 + 6 + 4 + 9 + 5 + 7 + 4 = 53$$